Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for a first device to reestablish a link between the first device and a second device, comprising:

transmitting an ITU Recommendation Q.921 disconnect request message from the first device in ITU Recommendation Q.922 terminal equipment identifier (TEI) assigned state (state 4) to the second device in response to the link between the first device and the second device going down;

starting an awaiting response timer to start;

upon any of expiration of the awaiting-response timer, receiving an ITU Recommendation Q.921 disconnect mode message from the second device, or receiving a Q.921 acknowledgement message from the second device, transmitting an ITU Recommendation Q.921 request for connection to establish link from the first device to the second device;

after transmitting the disconnect request message to the second device and upon receiving an acknowledgement message from the second device, determining if an awaiting-response-to-the-disconnect-message flag is set;

and

transitioning the first device to ITU Recommendation Q.922 (state 5);

wherein the first device transmits the request for connection to establish link to the second device upon receiving an acknowledgement message from the second device only if the awaiting-response-to-the-disconnect-message flag is set.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the disconnect request message transmitted by the first device to the second device includes a poll bit set to 0.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising setting the ~~an~~ awaiting-response-to-the-disconnect-message flag in response to receiving a data link establishment request.

Claim 4 (canceled).

Claim 5 (previously presented): The method of claim 1 wherein said disconnect request message comprises a disconnect (DISC) message as specified by ITU Recommendation Q.921.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A computer program product for enabling a first device to reestablish a link between the first device and a second device, said computer program product comprising:

code that causes transmission of an ITU Recommendation Q.921 disconnect request message from the first device in ITU Recommendation Q.922 terminal equipment identifier (TEI) state (state 4) to the second device in response to the link between the first device and the second device going down;

code that causes an awaiting response timer to start;

code that causes, upon any of expiration of the awaiting-response timer, receiving an ITU Recommendation Q.921 disconnect mode message from the second device, or receiving an ITU Recommendation Q.921 acknowledgement message from the second device, transmitting an ITU Recommendation Q.921 request for connection to establish link from the first device to the second device;

code that causes, after transmitting the disconnect request message to the second device and upon receiving an acknowledgement message from the second device, determining if an awaiting-response-to-the-disconnect-message flag is set;

code that causes transitioning of the first device to ITU Recommendation Q.922 awaiting establishment state (state 5); and

a computer-readable medium for storing the codes;

wherein the first device transmits the request for connection to establish link to the second device upon receiving an acknowledgement message from the second device only if the awaiting-response-to-the-disconnect-message flag is set.

Claim 7 (original): The product of claim 6, wherein the disconnect request message transmitted by the first device to the second device includes a poll bit set to 0.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The product of claim 6, further comprising code that causes ~~said processor to set an~~ setting of the awaiting-response-to-the-disconnect-message flag in response to receiving a data link establishment request.

Claim 9 (canceled).

Claim 10 (previously presented): The product of claim 6 wherein said disconnect request message comprises a disconnect (DISC) message as specified by ITU Recommendation Q.921.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A first device that reestablishes a link to a second device, said first device comprising:

a processor that executes software; and

a computer-readable storage medium that stores the software, said software comprising:

code that causes said processor to transmit an ITU Recommendation Q.921 disconnect request message from the first device in ITU Recommendation Q.922 terminal equipment identifier (TEI) assigned state (state 4) to the second device in response to the link between the first device and the second device going down;

code that causes a transmission timer to start;

code that causes said processor to, upon any of the transmission timer expiration, receiving an ITU Recommendation Q.921 disconnect mode message from the second device, or receiving ITU Recommendation Q.921 acknowledgement message from the second device, transmit an ITU Recommendation Q.921 request for connection to establish link from the first device to the second device;

code that, after transmitting the disconnect request message to the second device and upon receiving an acknowledgement message from the second device, causes said processor to determine if an awaiting-response-to-the-disconnect-message flag is set; and

code that causes transitioning of the first device to ITU Recommendation Q.922 awaiting establishment state (state 5);

wherein the first device transmits the request for connection to establish link to the second device upon receiving an acknowledgement message from the second device only if the awaiting-response-to-the-disconnect-message flag is set.

Claim 12 (original): The first device of claim 11, wherein the disconnect request message transmitted by the first device to the second device includes a poll bit set to 0.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The first device of claim 11, wherein said software further comprises code that causes said processor to set ~~an~~ the awaiting-response-to-the-disconnect-message flag in response to receiving a data link establishment request.

Claim 14 (canceled).

Claim 15 (previously presented): The first device of claim 11 wherein said disconnect request message comprises a disconnect (DISC) message as specified by ITU Recommendation Q.921.

Claim 16 (currently amended): An apparatus for a first device to reestablish a link between the first device and a second device, said apparatus comprising:

means for transmitting an ITU Recommendation Q.921 disconnect request message from the first device in ITU Recommendation Q.922 terminal equipment identifier (TEI) assigned state (state 4) to the second device in response to the link between the first device and the second device going down;

means for starting an awaiting-response timer;

means for, upon any of expiration of the awaiting-response timer, receiving an ITU Recommendation Q.921 disconnect mode message from the second device, or receiving Q.921 acknowledgement message from the second device, transmitting an ITU Recommendation Q.921 request for connection to establish link from the first device to the second device;

means for, after transmitting the disconnect request message to the second device and upon receiving an acknowledgement message from the second device, determining if an awaiting-response-to-the-disconnect-message flag is set; and

means for transitioning the first device to ITU Recommendation Q.922 awaiting establishment state (state 5);

wherein the first device transmits the request for connection to establish link to the second device upon receiving an acknowledgement message from the second device only if the awaiting-response-to-the-disconnect-message flag is set.

Claim 17 (original): The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the disconnect request message transmitted by the first device to the second device includes a poll bit set to 0.

Claim 18 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 16, further comprising means for setting ~~an~~ the awaiting-response-to-the-disconnect-message flag in response to receiving a data link establishment request.

Claim 19 (canceled).

Claim 20 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 16 wherein said disconnect request message comprises a disconnect (DISC) message as specified by ITU Recommendation Q.921.